



september 2016

HSZC Sangha News &amp; Events 2016



HARTFORD STREET ZEN CENTER

57 Hartford Street, San Francisco, California 94114 Telephone: (415) 863-2507

**Schedule:****mondays**

\* 7:00 am zazen (sitting meditation)

\* 7:40 am morning service - (chanting service)

6:00 pm zazen

6:40 pm evening chanting service

\* last monday of each month, no morning schedule

**tuesdays - fridays**

6:00 am zazen

6:40 am kinhin (walking meditation)

6:50 am zazen

7:20 am chanting service

7:40 am soji (brief temple cleaning)

6:00 pm zazen

6:40 pm chanting service

**thursdays study hour**  
(buddhist text) 7:30pm**saturdays**

6:30 am zazen

7:10 am chanting service

7:25 am soji

8:30 am drop-in instruction

9:25 am zazen

10:15 am dharma talk

11:00 am refreshments/social \*

\* if a ceremony applies it will occur before social time

**Aryasimha**

When the Master and the disciple met the very first time, disciple asked, "I want to seek the Way.

What concerns should I have?"

The patriarch [ed. ancestor] said "If you want to seek the Way, how could the Way have anything to do with concerns? We die here and are born there.

Even though we aspire to the Way and seek it everywhere, the fact that we do not make this truth our own is a result of using this mind.





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Nevertheless, if you suddenly try to become worthy of the Buddha's wisdom, not only do you leave the four perverted views and the three poisons, but you will also leave behind the three bodies and four kinds of wisdom.

When you roam about in this way, the result is that it is hard to settle down in the realm of ordinary people, and it is hard to revere the status of Buddha, for you transcend the limits of the ordinary and wise by far, and you speedily separate yourself from the considerations of difference and sameness.

Therefore, this co-called profound, subtle place is still hard for the Buddha patriarchs [ed. ancestors] to reach. It is not only hard for the Buddha patriarchs [ed. ancestors] to reach, but, of course, when you speak of such a realm, ultimately Buddha patriarchs [ed. ancestors] do not exist. Reaching such a realm is the true meaning of seeking Dharma.

[The Record of Transmitting the Light: Zen Master Keizan's Denkoroku](#)  
- Francis Dojun Cook

~ upcoming events ~

**dharma talks @10:15am, saturdays**

**hszc speakers**

**Myō Lahey** - sept 3,10,17

**Daiko Tanzen**, David Bullock - tbd

**guest speakers**

**Temple, Dharma Study, Resident Student Program, Our Practice Schedule, and the Space & Programs offered to the Public.**

Donations are tax deductible  
we are a 501-C 3 non-profit

**Shokan Jordan Thorn - sept 24;** Rev Ryuei, Micheal McCormick of Nichirin tradition Oct 8; *Rev Elaine Donlin of Jōdo Shinshū tradition* Oct 22; Zenshin Greg Fain - nov 5; *Ko Shin Steven Tierney* - dec 17;

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**beginning in mid-to-late-september** (see our website or facebook for details) **we will begin to offer a queer meditation space evening, on tuesdays.** This offering will not have the formal zen forms & service, a shorter mediation period than our usual zazen and have some discussion time, possibly social time included. the format is designed to evolve to the desires and request of the attendees

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**sangha council - friday, Sept 16 2016 @ 7:30pm**  
- council runs for 90 minutes with a break mid-way — we're continuing this format that is flexible enough for a diversity of needs. the primary focus has been recently on operational matters and new programs. the session is open to added topics as well and you do not need to have an 'issue' or overt concern to attend. Council is sangha building, connection and healing. All are welcome

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**full moon ceremony saturday; Sept 17 @11am** - some Native American tribes called the the Full Moon nearest the autumnal equinox is named the Harvest Moon since, during this month, the Moon helps the harvest by providing more light at the right time than other Full Moons do.

added tribal names:

"Moon When the Plums Are Scarlet" by the Lakota Sioux Native American Indians.

"Moon When the Deer Paw the Earth" by the Omaha

Native American Indians.  
"Moon When the Calves Grow Hair" by the Sioux  
Native American Indians

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**study hour - thursdays @7:30pm** - selected Studies of Zen Master Dōgen. see our website for details. So far all have been from the Dōgen Shobōgenzo version compiled and translated by Kazuaki Tanahashi.

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**half day retreat - september 17,2016 @ 6am** - contact [hszc108@yahoo.com](mailto:hszc108@yahoo.com) to register for dates offered, we have been offering half day retreats 6am to 1pm, if registered, includes breakfast - following added dates to be announced. [Please stay in touch here.](#)

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**closure & schedule changes:**

last monday of each month - no morning program, only evening schedule

closed monday september 5th for Labor Day holiday

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**founder monthly memorials** - Issan's is the **6th** of each month and Philip's is the **26th** (or closest dates to these if cant be on that day) - evenings at 6:40pm or saturday mornings

\* in September it is also Issan's annual memorial at 26 years since his passing

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**practice discussions at hszc are available** with Rev. Daiko Tanzen, David Bullock. and Dokusan with Rev. Myo Lahey please call us, approach them directly, or email: [hszc108@yahoo.com](mailto:hszc108@yahoo.com) to request to schedule time.



a photo op - hogetsu, max & tendo, chris @ magic shop after a visit to the mineral and gem show in august 2016 - in SF near golden gate park -

*transcribed by sangha-*

#### **words from our Abbot, Rev Myo Lahey:**

You can spend a lot of time going from choice to choice looking for something with an undefined quality that will resonate. This is it. This is the one—while forgetting that you said that about the last thing, and the last thing, and the last thing. There's a tarot card, it's one of the cups, maybe the eight [ed. seven of cups]? There's all these cups with all these cool things in them, and there is one with a cool person rising out if it, kind of with a veil, and that's the one, the one that people want, the one with the little magical being



rising out of it. The others are just sort of temporary. I tend to think, that this is the case with our human relationships. We tend to be looking for the person, the one who's just for me. My experience is that "that person" was "the one I said it was"—instead of against all impossible odds, somehow encountering that being and having that certainty that that person was the right one, come somehow from them. Actually, "that came from me."

This is our tendency. In Dharma study, I think it's often similar. People may decide after trying various things, OK, this is the one for me. Maybe they had some nice experience. At another point they may realize, that came from them. "This is what I'm going to do. I'm going to bring myself entirely to this and see what happens." In more traditional environments there aren't so many choices. But here in the Bay Area, that's not the case. You can have nearly any flavor of Dharma you want. In a way, it makes things kind of more difficult—both nice to have a range of choices, if you can sense where your karma is taking you, but otherwise, it can feel like being in a candy store, not sure what to eat next. And yet, in Buddha's candy store everything tastes the same.

[Abbot Myō Lahey 2016 May 07 Hartford Street Zen Center](#)

**website updates:** dharma talks of old, very old and new and recent weeks are here on our website: <http://hszc.org/podcasts/>

We also plan to archive and have started to add other documents and video as well!

**new bookshelves for our library!** Deep bows to all from Sheryl who helped plan raising funds at Castro Street fair; to librarian Jim and his help from Brian and Will;



and not least or last Daiko Tanzen, David and Hogestu, Max for retrieving, assembling and installing



**2016 San Francisco, CA - a Buddhist Walk to Feed the Hungry - Saturday, October 15, 2016**

[raise money for the poor and hungry around the world](#)



**autumn equinox is** - september 22, 2016: day and night are each about 12 hours long (with the actual time of equal day and night, in the Northern Hemisphere, occurring a few days after the autumnal equinox). The Sun crosses the celestial equator going southward; it rises exactly due east and sets exactly due west.

**word of the month - Prajñā** - most likely the most widely and frequently mispronounced word in Buddhist centers in The US, that often is heard said in chanting or stated in english as *prododg nee ah*, but should sound closer in English to *prug ñee-ya* as [heard here](#) :

prajñā (Sanskrit), Paññā (Pāli) "wisdom", is insight in the true nature of reality - namely primarily anicca (impermanence), dukkha (dissatisfaction or suffering), anattā (non-self) and śūnyatā (emptiness).

**hszc history** - an excerpt from "Awakening Mind in the Castro" article written by George Gayuski (~mid 1990s) founder of the HIV sitting group

The Buddhist career of this old Victorian house began in 1973, as a Tibetan Buddhist center known as Dharmadhatu. It was one of a score of temples established at that time across the country by Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche; a remarkably skillful and highly regarded teacher, proficient in English and the American mind (sometimes painfully so).

John Powers, a gay man and senior student of Trungpa, chose the site because he wanted to live close to the Castro and also because he felt it would be helpful for other practitioners, mostly straight, to be exposed to the gay community. In 1979, Dharmadhatu moved to a larger location and the house became a residence to several gay men, each practicing within one of several forms of Buddhism.

In 1981, the house became a temple once again, this time in the Zen tradition, under the stewardship of Zen priest, Issan Dorsey.

*full article to be available in the archives soon!*



**HIV meditation group**; weekly meditation group for those living with HIV, their friends, families, community supporters & anyone who wants to join us!

thursdays & fridays  
10:30am zazen  
11:00am garden socializing

**meditation in recovery**; weekly meditation group for men & women in recovery from addiction  
fridays, 7:30pm - 9pm

**(women only) meditation in recovery**; monthly meditation group for women in recovery from addiction  
first thurs, 7:15pm - 8:45pm

**(men only) meditation in recovery**; a monthly meeting for men in recovery from addiction  
3rd thurs of every month, 7:30pm-8:30pm

**board of director meetings**; you're invited to attend & observe!  
second weds of each month, 7:30pm



peyton & oliver



Abbot, hartford street zen center --- Reverend Myō Lahey ---

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san francisco, CA 94114



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please submit stories, reflections,  
personal news, artwork & photography  
for future newsletters to  
KeiDo at

tetsugen.keido@yahoo.com

may this newsletter find you well  
& equanimous! \_\_/\\\_\_



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please contact us for rental space & events, ceremonies performed by a zen priest -  
weddings, memorials, coming of age & baby naming events

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